



# THE VIEWPOINT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SCBA

## In This Issue

- BAPTIST TOOLBOX ARTICLE
- SCBA TEAMS
- A WORD FROM YOUR AMS
- CAMP SMOKY GALA
- PRAYING FOR OUR PASTORS
- “WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW”

## B TOOLBOX

Ministers have worked hard to make youth ministry more efficient. The demands of reaching as many students as possible every week on a shrinking budget pushes us towards it. We are all trying to get as much as we can out of what we have, and the season leading into the fall semester is full of our best efforts. Social media updates. Polished PDFs. Weekly Email updates. Automated check-ins. Streamlined schedules. It's all neat, organized and can be perfectly ineffective.

As a result, parent ministry has suffered the same. Ask any youth pastor if ministering to and partnering with parents is important, and they will tell you yes. Just don't ask them how it's going ...

**Read more at <https://bit.ly/45Abcu7>**

**Author:** Zac Workun & Chad Higgins  
LifeWay

*Scan me*



# Open Church Positions

- **First Baptist Church Pigeon Forge** - Are you interested in working with small children in a church setting? Can you dedicate three hours each Sunday morning to caring for our littlest worshippers? First Baptist Church Pigeon Forge is seeking a part-time nursery worker on Sundays (other opportunities for work are possible). Candidates must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and have a current CPR certificate. A background check will be required. If interested, please email [office@fbcpf.org](mailto:office@fbcpf.org) or call the church office at (865) 453-4647 during business hours.
- **First Baptist Church Pigeon Forge** - Are you looking for a place to serve God? A church in one of the most visited cities in the United States needs a Family Pastor. Are you an ordained Southern Baptist minister looking to serve alongside a seasoned Senior pastor? Can you build relationships and make disciples with young families and children in a small community with a diverse population? If so, please send your resume to [office@fbcpf.org](mailto:office@fbcpf.org). or First Baptist Church P.O. Box 98 Pigeon Forge, TN 37868.
- **Churches without a pastor:**
- Grace
  - Providence
  - Zion Hill

Please call the office with  
any updates to church  
positions ... thanks!

## Ready to Serve? Join a Team, Make a Difference

Part of our vision as an Association is clear: **Equipping churches and engaging the community with the hope of Christ.** But here's the truth—I can't do it alone.

That's why our teams matter so much.

Our Administrative, Discipleship, Ministry/Missions, Vision, and Campus Ministry teams are where the real work of ministry takes shape. These teams help guide, support, and resource our churches so we can make a greater impact together than any of us could on our own. And we need you.

If you're interested in learning more, please reach out to me directly. Team members will be recommended and voted on at our Annual Meeting in October.

Together, we can do more. Would you prayerfully consider joining one of these teams?

# "God is Still Here"

Written by Justin Johnson | AMS

Life right now feels heavy. Headlines tell stories of conflict, economic strain, and rising anxiety. You can feel the weight of it in your community, in your church, and maybe even in your own heart. But here is a truth we need to be reminded of: this is precisely the moment Jesus calls us forward. Not with naïve optimism, but with a rooted and lasting hope that speaks louder than the noise of the world. The Holy Spirit is our presence in despair, our steady voice in confusion, and our anchor when storms batter the soul. As you strive to be the salt & light this month, I invite you to consider how Christ's light can meet you and those around you right where you are.

When the world feels unsettled, it can be tempting to pull back, to protect ourselves, or to simply wait until things get better. Yet throughout Scripture, God meets His people in the middle of trouble and calls them to lean into Him. Paul wrote from prison. David praised God while running for his life. The early church thrived during seasons of intense persecution. When you think about it, our faith has never depended on ideal circumstances.

In seasons like this, the people around us are not only looking for answers, they are searching for peace. Policies, programs, and plans can help, but they cannot quiet the deep restlessness of the human heart.

Only the presence of God can do that. We have the privilege of offering more than temporary solutions. We can offer the hope of Jesus Christ, who brings peace that passes understanding.

This means our role is not simply to comment on the darkness. Our calling is to bring the light of Christ into it. We do this through prayer, through words that encourage, and through acts of compassion that meet both physical and spiritual needs.



We can be a steady voice of truth when the voices around us are full of fear and division. So as September begins, I encourage you to listen for God's voice above the noise. Let His Word remind you that He is still sovereign, still faithful, and still working for good. Then carry that hope into your conversations, your ministries, and your communities. The world needs it now more than ever.

*Justin*



Limited  
Tickets!  
\$100

CAMP SMOKY PRESENTS...

# HARVEST OF HOPE GALA

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27TH

6pm - 8pm | Sevierville Civic Center

*Register online @ [campsmoky.us/gala](https://campsmoky.us/gala)*

**As we prepare for the Harvest of Hope Gala, we are seeking volunteers to help bring this vision to life. There are many meaningful ways to serve — from helping spread the word, selling tickets, and securing sponsors, to joining us on the night of the event as hosts, greeters, servers, hospitality team, bussers, stage crew, set-up and tear-down helpers, or silent auction assistants.**

**This is a beautiful opportunity to use your time and talents to bless others and be part of a mission that's changing lives for generations.**

**If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you! Together, we can make this night one of impact, excellence, and joy.**

Church Gifts			
July			
Alder Branch	\$412.00	Millican Grove	
Banner	\$100.00	Mountain View	\$755.91
Beech Springs	\$679.49	New Center	\$50.00
Bells Chapel		New Era	\$382.60
Bethel	\$100.00	New Salem	
Blowing Cave		Northview	
Boyd's Creek	\$42.25	Oak City	
Bradley's Chapel		Oldham's Creek	\$204.90
Calvary	\$25.00	Paw Paw Hollow	\$1,516.74
Connect	\$100.00	Pigeon Forge 1st	\$677.00
Covemont		Providence	
Dripping Springs		Red Bank	\$200.00
Dupont		Red Bank 1st	
Faith Fellowship		Richardson's Cove	
French Broad Valley	\$300.00	Roaring Fork	\$250.00
Friendship		Sevierville 1st	\$2,083.33
Gatlinburg First	\$50.00	Sevierville 2nd	\$125.00
Gists Creek	\$100.00	Seymour 1st	\$906.67
Grace	\$64.45	Shiloh	\$1,736.00
Gumstand		Sims Chapel	
Henderson Chapel	\$213.00	Smithwood	
Hills Creek		Sugar Loaf	
Howard's View		Union Valley	\$100.00
Hurst Chapel		Valley View	\$285.00
Jones Chapel	\$375.00	Walden's Creek	
Knob Creek	\$155.20	Walnut Grove	\$200.00
Kodak		Wears Valley	
Laurel Branch		Williamsburg	
Laurel Grove		Zion Grove	\$253.00
Lebanon		Zion Hill	\$234.00
Maples Branch	\$26.50	Individuals	
TOTAL		\$12,703.04	

## Praying for our Pastors

Aug. 31<sup>st</sup> - Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>

Erle Shepard | Cornerstone  
Ernie Coleman | Laurel Grove

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>

Greg Watson | Lebanon  
David Hodges | Maples Branch

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>

David Wilson | Millican Grove  
Jack Hitch | Mountain View

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>

Wayne Smith | New Center  
Dwayne White | New Era

scan the code to  
sign up for text reminders



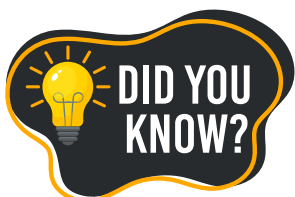
## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### -Calendar-

- **August 25<sup>th</sup>** - Executive Board Meeting  
6:30pm | SCBA Board Room
- **September 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Pastor's Learning Community  
10am | Kings Family Library
- **September 16<sup>th</sup>** - Campus Ministry Team Meeting  
6pm | Camp Smoky
- **September 20<sup>th</sup>** - Children's Missions Day
- **September 29<sup>th</sup>** - Executive Board Meeting  
6:30pm | SCBA Board Room

### -In Other News-

- **To receive the newsletter by email, please sign up @ [www.sevbaptist.org/viewpoint](http://www.sevbaptist.org/viewpoint).** If you wish to continue receiving the Viewpoint in the mail, please call me at the office.
- **September 27<sup>th</sup>** is our first annual Harvest of Hope Gala ... a benefit dinner to raise funds for Camp Smoky! We hope you'll join us by either registering to attend, volunteering your time, or sponsoring a plate. For more information, please speak with Justin at 865-453-0124



40% of former pastors say they stepped away because of a change in calling, 18% due to a church conflict, and 16% from burnout.



PO Box 4099  
Sevierville, TN 37864

*Return Service Requested*

---

**Associational Mission  
Strategist**

*Justin Johnson*  
p. 865-453-0124  
e. [justin@sevbaptist.org](mailto:justin@sevbaptist.org)

***Stay Connected!***  
**[sevbaptist.org](http://sevbaptist.org) | [campsmoky.us](http://campsmoky.us)**

---



# THE VIEWPOINT

SEPTEMBER 2025  
VOLUME 42, ISSUE 9

THANKS FOR BEING A SUBSCRIBER!